

But the confluence of rising seas and more extreme storms caused by climate change could present an insurmountable challenge for those trying to protect this and thousands of other historical structures near the coast.

Then, finally:

“Is commercial fishing sustainable? An industry at crossroads.”

John Bullard, regional administrator with NOAA’s Northeast Regional Office, said that he believes commercial fishing can be sustainable but a number of issues, including climate change, need attention for that to happen.

I represent a State whose fishing industry depends on doing something about climate change, whose historic buildings are at risk of being flooded and lost by the insurmountable problem of climate change, and whose salt marshes, which are very important to our State, are rising at a rate that could eventually wipe them out.

Am I supposed to ignore that? Am I supposed to ignore this? It is not going to happen.

I am proud to stand with our leading research institutions and scientists around the country, our national security experts, corporations such as Apple, Google, Mars, and National Grid. I am proud to stand with President Obama and Pope Francis, who both agree about the seriousness of climate change.

If the polluter machine wants to score more ink, so be it. I cannot stop them, but I am not going anywhere. My State is in the crosshairs. This is one of those fights worth having.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

#### ATVM LOAN PROGRAM AMENDMENT

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I am thankful the Senate is taking up the appropriations bills. The appropriations process is the only way citizens can truly hold their elected representatives accountable. It also allows the American people to see just what the priorities are for the Senate.

Through my votes upon appropriations bills, I have to decide which government programs to prioritize and which government programs need to be cut. These are tough choices, but Nebraskans sent me to Washington to make these hard decisions.

Again, I am hopeful that the Senate is taking up these bills and that we can make important spending decisions on

behalf of the American people. That is why I am proud to join Senators COATS, TOOMEY, and FLAKE to submit an amendment that targets what I see is overspending in the Energy and Water appropriations bill.

This amendment would wind down the Department of Energy’s troubled Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program. The ATVM Program was designed to provide loans for businesses that produce fuel-efficient, advanced-technology vehicles and components in the United States. The program was created in 2007. In 2009, Congress appropriated \$7.5 billion in subsidies to cover \$25 billion in loans authorized under that program.

Unfortunately, as Senator COATS and Senator TOOMEY have pointed out, this program has struggled for many years. The record speaks for itself. Take Fisker Automotive as an example. In April of 2010, Fisker received a loan through the ATVM program for the purpose of producing two lines of plug-in hybrid vehicles at its plant in Wilmington, DE. In 2011, because Fisker was not meeting its performance targets, the DOE suspended its original loan of \$529 million.

Unfortunately, \$192 million in taxpayer dollars had already been loaned to the company. Fisker halted operations, and they filed for bankruptcy in November of 2013. The company’s ATVM loan was sold at auction for \$25 million and the DOE was able to recoup \$28 million from an escrow account. However, this loan still resulted in a \$139-million loss for taxpayers.

In February of 2014, Fisker’s assets were auctioned to a Chinese manufacturer, Wanxiang, through the resulting bankruptcy proceedings. This was one of the many failures resulting from the ATVM Program.

In 2013, a Government Accountability Office report found few auto manufacturers and program applicants willing to participate in the program due to high costs and the limited benefits. As a result, the Secretary of Energy announced a number of changes to the ATVM Program in April of 2014. Not a single new loan has been approved since the announcement of these revisions.

This program is a clear example of waste. It reveals the dangers of allowing our government to pick winners and losers in the private sector. That is why I am here today to join Senators COATS and TOOMEY and FLAKE in offering an amendment that would prohibit

new loan applications from being reviewed if they are not submitted by the date of this bill’s enactment. Furthermore, our amendment would prohibit any loan credit subsidies after the end of fiscal year 2020. Through these provisions, we can responsibly wind down a very ineffective program.

Our national debt continues to grow, and it now exceeds \$19 trillion. According to the March 2016 report of the Congressional Budget Office, annual deficits will exceed \$1 trillion in 2022 and every year thereafter. This makes the need for commonsense provisions like ours all the more urgent. We simply cannot afford to continue spending money on programs that are not effective.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this sensible amendment when it is brought up for a vote.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PERDUE). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### BUDGET COMMITTEE COST ESTIMATE—S. 2804

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I offer for the RECORD the Budget Committee’s cost estimate of S. 2804, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2017.

The reported measure provides \$37.5 billion in discretionary budget authority for fiscal year 2017, which will result in new outlays of \$21.9 billion. When outlays from prior-year budget authority are taken into account, non-emergency discretionary outlays for the bill will total \$37.6 billion.

The reported bill matches its section 302(b) allocation for budget authority for both the security and nonsecurity categories and is below the 302(b) allocation for outlays by \$1 million.

The bill is not subject to any budget points of order.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the table displaying the Budget Committee scoring of the bill.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### S. 2804, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS, 2017: SPENDING COMPARISONS—SENATE-REPORTED BILL

(Fiscal year 2017, \$ millions)

	Budget authority		Outlays	
	Security	Nonsecurity	Total	Total
Senate-reported bill .....	20,023	17,514	37,537	37,560
Senate 302(b) allocation .....	20,023	17,514	37,537	37,561
2016 Enacted .....	18,860	18,325	37,185	37,216
President’s request .....	19,343	17,933	37,276	36,340
SENATE-REPORTED BILL COMPARED TO:				
Senate 302(b) allocation .....	0	0	0	—1
2016 Enacted .....	1,163	—811	352	344